

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
(Final; Action)

CC.21.02 Election of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Chair

BACKGROUND

The Senate Executive Committee shall initiate and guide the work of the Senate; coordinate and evaluate the activities of the Senate committees; prepare the agenda for Senate meetings; schedule and supervise the organizing of the Senate in accordance with Part A of the Senate *Bylaws*; nominate members of the Committee on Committees; provide advice annually, as requested, to the Chancellor on the annual appointment of the vice chancellors; provide advice annually to the President on the annual appointment of the Chancellor; review Campus Budget Oversight Committee, Research Board, and Research Policy Committee nominees; and perform such other duties as the *Statutes* or Senate shall specify.

The Chair of the Senate Executive Committee shall establish and maintain liaison with the offices of the President of the University and the Board of Trustees on matters of major concern to the Senate.

The Chair and a Vice-Chair, shall be elected by ballot by and from among the membership of the Senate, and who shall be the presiding officers of the Senate Executive Committee.

NOMINATIONS

The Committee on Committees nominates the following senator for a one-year term as Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) ending in 2021. A statement of interest is included. If there are no nominations from the floor, the following nominee will be declared elected.

Robin Kar (Professor, LAW)

All nominations submitted from the Senate floor must include 1) Nominee's name, 2) Nominee's statement of willingness to serve, and 3) a 200 words or less statement of interest and experience. Nominees must be a senator at the time their term begins. Nominations from the floor can be presented solely in written form, in the same manner as the slate brought forward by Committee on Committees.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
Christopher Span, Chair

Rummana Alam
Jared Bastian
Laura Christianson
Tim Flanagin
Laura Garrett
Ane Icardo Isasa
Jennifer Monson
Deniz Namik
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

STATEMENT OF INTEREST AND EXPERIENCE

Robin Kar (Professor, LAW)

Professor Kar is a Professor of Law, with a joint appointment in Philosophy. He has a BA, in philosophy (with a minor in physics) magna cum laude (Harvard); a JD from Yale Law School; and PhD in Philosophy (University of Michigan). He clerked for the Honorable Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

As 2019-2020 SEC Chair, Professor Kar helped develop new mechanisms to ensure strong shared governance on time-sensitive policy decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic. He was the 2018-2019 Vice Chair. Kar has also engaged in numerous other campus and system-level service positions. For some examples: Kar chaired the Committee on Faculty Sexual Misconduct, which produced substantial recommendations to reorganize the University's responses to sexual misconduct. He sits on the University Senates Conference, participated in the naming rights working group, helped develop and draft system-wide comments and objections to the Department of Education's proposed Title IX regulations, and helped manage the production of system-level guiding principles to foster healthy relationships across the campuses. In all these positions, Kar has sought to empower faculty and other senators by guiding their engagement and representation in broader campus and system-wide efforts. Kar would continue those same efforts next year.

Kar's interdisciplinary scholarship easily crosses the North/South Campus divide. Areas of expertise include the evolution of morality; the prehistory of social complexity; religious tolerance; race in the genomic age; contract law and theory; history of same-sex marriage law; the impact of the digital world on traditional systems of private ordering; and harassment policy. Recently, Kar has begun to develop a new research area in the law and policy of higher education.